(b) the details and the number of armed forces personnel who are still continuing in IDSA, despite lapse of extendable period up to four years, as per the norms under the Scheme;

(c) whether there are specific reasons to retain their services as well as Service Members at the Institute *vis-a-vis* their repatriation to their parent cadre ignoring the national interest; and

(d) the details of all the foreign travels undertaken by armed forces personnel deputed at IDSA since September, 2000 onwards, till date?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) 28 Research Projects have been completed by serving armed forces personnel under the Fellowship Scheme at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) since September, 2000 till date on subjects such as structure of Indian Army, terrorism, counter-terrorism strategy, modernization of Army, security scenario in the Asia Pacific region etc.

(b) and (c) One Officer from Air Force is with the IDSA for over four years at present. The officer is completing research in a field important from military point of view, and for which no other suitable researcher is available. The officer has been retained at the Institute's request and with the consent of the Air Force, which does not envisage any operational role for the officer.

(d) 8 Armed Forces personnel deputed at IDSA have undertaken 38 foreign travels since September, 2000 till date. These visits were made to neighbouring countries, Germany, US, Italy, Canada, etc. to participate in Seminars/Conferences of Military importance and were relevant to their research subjects.

Filling of vacant posts in Rajya Sainik Boards and Zila Sainik Boards

4476. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had asked the State Government to fill vacant posts in the Rajya Sainik Boards and Zila Sainik Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Rajya Sainik and Zila Sainik Boards do not even have basic facilities in terms of manpower and accommodation; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to improve the conditions of Rajya Sainik and Zila Sainik Boards?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has requested the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to fill up the vacant posts in the Rajya Sainik Boards and Zila Sainik Boards expeditiously and their response has been positive.

(c) and (d) Some of these Boards do not have adequate manpower and accommodation facilities. The concerned State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested to provide the same.

Combat aircraft crashes

. 4477. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many combat aircrafts have been lost in crashes during the last three years, giving the year-wise, make-wise and area-wise details thereof;

(b) how many of these were manufactured, assembled, upgraded or overhauled by the original manufacturers and how much of their operational life was still remaining;

(c) how many of these aircrafts were manufactured or overhauled or upgraded by the HAL; and

(d) whether it is a fact that majority of such aircrafts were manufactured or maintained by the HAL?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) The Defence forces have lost 30 combat aircraft in accidents during the period from 1st April, 2004 to 8th May, 2007. The year, type and place-wise details of the accidents are given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

Out of 30 aircraft crashed, 22 were manufactured by Original Equipment Manufacturers and 8 by HAL. 21 of these aircraft were also overhauled by HAL of which 1 was upgraded.